

# Minerals Management Service

- Mineral Resource Manager
  - oil, gas, sulphur, sand & gravel...
- Outer Continental Shelf
  - 1.76 billion acres
- \$6-8 billion/year to treasury
- 1800 employees
- 30% Oil and 25% Gas produced domestically

# Gulf of Mexico Region

- 3 planning areas
- ~ 4,000 structures
  - Platforms, caissons, well protector, TLP...
- ~ 33,000 miles of pipeline
- Drilling record – 10,011 feet of water
- Production – 7,000 feet of water

# National Environmental Policy Act

- All federal actions must include consideration of impacts to the environment
- Prepare Environmental Impact Statements for lease sales
- To make evaluations, information about the affected environment is needed

# Environmental Studies Program

- Since 1973, > \$700 million in research, \$250 million in GOM
- Contracted to consulting firms, universities, other agencies
- Topics from archaeology to zoology
- Most available on our website

# Nutrients (Hypoxia)

- Produced water studies
- Currently completing review of contributions from produced water to hypoxia by Dr. Rabalais

# Healthy Beaches and Shellfish Beds

- Sand & Gravel Program – sand is removed from Federal lands for beach restoration
- Louisiana – Ship Shoal area
- Funding of coastal buoys

# Coastal Wetlands

- Pipeline Study with USGS, nearly complete
  - Concerned with wetland loss due to pipeline placement
- Other studies concerned with impacts from oil spills

# Gulf Habitats

- Coastal
  - GWIS – developed in mid-90's with states
  - Based on ESI information
- Marine
  - Flower Gardens and other topo features
  - Pinnacles
  - Chemosynthetic communities
  - Deepwater corals – *Lophelia sp.*



# Environmental Education

- Posters and Teacher's Companions
  - Whales and Dolphins
  - Islands of Life
  - Chemosynthetic Communities
  - Offshore Oases
  - Chemistry
  - Geology
  - Archaeology